

American Association for Geodetic Surveying

Board of Directors

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 09, 2020

1. Open meeting, President

A. The Board of Directors meeting was called to order by President Dan Gillins at 16:03 Eastern.

B. Secretary Dan Roman called the roll:

i. Present:

President: Dan Gillins

President-Elect: Dave Zilkoski

Vice-President (Director 3rd year): John Bean

Director (2nd year): Tony Cavell

Director (1st year): Bob Burtch

Secretary: Dan Roman

Parliamentarian: Steve Briggs

AAGS/NSPS Liaison, Delegate to NSPS Foundation and Chair: Jacob Heck

ii. Absent:

Immediate Past President: Tom Meyer

Treasurer: Dan Martin

Reporter (Association editor): Ronnie Taylor

SaLIS Editor: Chuck Ghilani¹

iii. At least two directors were present as well as a quorum; therefore, the meeting was authorized.

2. Agenda

A. Upon call for further additions, new business was not introduced.

B. The AAGS BOD agenda, posted April 09, was accepted without objection.

3. Minutes

A. No new alterations to the March 12 Meeting Minutes were submitted.

B. Gillins approved the finalized March 12 Meeting Minutes as distributed.

¹ *Italics indicates AAGS board ex officio members*

4. Review of last month's action items
 - A. Taylor is working on a letter to government agencies on selecting a liaison for Government Programs Committee (Taylor)
 - i. Gillins will follow up with Taylor for an update.
 - B. AGU's list of 100 Advances in Geodesy (AGU) (Heck)
 - i. Heck has received good contributions from Meyer and Zilkoski.
 - ii. More are welcome. Please send your ideas to jacob.heck@noaa.gov (1-3 sentences, 1-3 references).
 - iii. Heck will compile the list and share it with Vicki Childers at AGU.
 - iv. As Bean requested, Heck will share the document in its current form, with AAGS Board members, by email.
 - C. John Hamilton – delegate from AAGS to attend FIG 2020 – (Gillins)
 - i. As a vote of support, Gillins let Hamilton know that the AAGS Board approved his request.
 - ii. Shortly thereafter, FIG Working Week was cancelled due to the virus.
5. Treasurer's Report (Martin)
 - A. Nothing reported
6. Surveying and Land Information Science
 - A. SaLIS Ex-Comm (Meyer)
 - i. Nothing reported.
 - B. SaLIS Editor (Ghilani/Gillins)
 - i. Members discussed candidate topics for invited SaLIS articles:
 - Geoid 18, Dr. Kevin Ahlgren, NOAA
 - Dynamic Geoid Model, Dr. Kevin Ahlgren, NOAA
 - NSRS Modernization
 - ii. Gillins will follow up with Ghilani on creating a special issue of SaLIS.
 - iii. Dru Smith has said that he'll be a guest editor on transitioning to the 2022 national coordinate system.
 - iv. *A special issue may be produced to encourage article submission. Other subject matter may be the new datum, drones, or UAV applications.*
7. Committees
 - A. Membership Committee (Zilkoski)

Zilkoski facilitated a special one-hour meeting, Thursday, March 26, at 4pm Eastern, to brainstorm ways to help increase membership.

- i. An action items list resulted from the meeting, and more ideas are welcome. Zilkoski will distribute the summary list of action items to participants after the meeting.
- ii. *Briggs indicated that his current email address is briggs3269@gmail.com. Zilkoski will make sure that Briggs receives the distributed materials.*
- iii. A list of members was also distributed, so that not-yet-renewing members could get personal attention from participants who know them.
- iv. This meeting will be repeated two weeks after the AAGS Board meeting: April 23, at 4pm Eastern, at (877) 988-6989, Passcode 1680881#

B. Other committees were not represented.

8. Liaisons

A. COGO (Cavell)

- i. COGO has proposed annual membership dues of \$375-\$400, and invited COGO members to vote approval.
 - Cavell and others responded to COGO, saying that they each need advice from their board prior to a vote.
 - Unless otherwise directed by the AAGS Board, Cavell is positioned to vote negative, given that costs are not incurred except associated with a unanimous vote toward action.
 - Gillins suggested that annual dues would provide funds to cover a website, website administration, staff, and bills and accounting.
 - Briggs moved that AAGS discussion and vote to approve or refuse COGO membership dues be postponed until the AAGS meeting May 14. Cavell seconded, and the motion passed without objection.
 - Gillins remarked that postponement will give the board a chance to consult with Treasurer Martin.
- ii. American satellite communications company Ligado Networks, formerly known as LightSquared, have again applied for use of frequencies adjacent to those of GPS satellites.
 - Tests have shown that their ground-based transmissions would overpower the relatively faint GPS L1 signals from space. Many GPS devices could pick up the stronger LightSquared signals and become overloaded or saturated.²
*Ligado Networks has 40 MHz of spectrum licenses in the nationwide block of 1500 MHz to 1700 MHz spectrum in the L-Band. With it, the company is developing a satellite-terrestrial network to support the **emerging 5G market** and Internet of Things applications.*

² <https://www.gps.gov/spectrum/lightsquared/>

*The FCC has always reserved some buffer, but LightSquared declared bankruptcy to create "breathing room" for battling regulatory hurdles.*³

- A URISA representative (*Policy Advisory Committee Chair Glenn O'Grady?*) wrote to FCC Chairman Ajit Pai to oppose reallocation of these frequencies to Ligado Networks. AAGS may want to research it and send a similar letter.
- Discussion supported a similar letter from AAGS, or combined as AAGS has done in the past with another organization such as NSPS.
- Cavell will forward the relevant email to Gillins for further processing.
- Gillins will also make sure that Teresa (?) is aware of the issue.

B. UESI (Dennis/Gillins)

- i. ASCE-UESI Surveying & Geomatics Conference has been postponed to April 25-27, 2021, in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. An official announcement is forthcoming.
- ii. ASCE had planned to conduct its first national surveying competition for civil engineering students. The new date is too early, so ASCE is communicating with NGS about conducting a competition in early summer 2021, at NOAA's Corbin Training Center.
- iii. UESI has set aside funds to join FIG as a member. UESI seeks a letter of support from AAGS.

1. New Business and Announcements

A. Briggs revived an effort to launch AAGS Student Chapters for land surveying programs not covered by NSPS, such as The Ohio State University.

- i. Cavell agreed, noting that the current alternative is for students to go to local surveyor societies affiliated with NSPS. He further indicated that traditional student chapters would not require complicated activities or meetings, but be a way to provide communication, perhaps improving educational programs through student feedback.
- ii. Briggs clarified that Student Chapters would be affiliated at the University level.
- iii. Zilkoski noted that in the past four years, no AAGS scholarship applicants have been submitted from students at OSU. An AAGS Student Chapter could remediate this.
- iv. Gillins launched discussion about how to proceed.
 - The right committee is probably Membership.
 - Zilkoski will put an email together to explore ways to proceed; "What do people envision a Student Chapter would do?"
 - Gillins will put this on the agenda for the May 14 AAGS Boardmeeting.

³ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB10001424052702304192704577404341177350280> "LightSquared Pulls the Plug" by Mike Spector And Greg Bensinger 5/14/2012

- Zilkoski will bring it up for discussion in the April 23 Membership meeting.
 - It was agreed that these should focus on Surveying and Mapping.
 - Burtch noted the importance of a faculty sponsor/advisor who is willing to shepherd the chapter. This may involve some paperwork at each university.
- B. Don't miss the Membership meeting Thursday, April 23, at 4pm Eastern, at (877) 988-6989, Passcode 1680881# (Zilkoski).
9. The next meeting of the AAGS BOD is scheduled for Thursday, May 14 @ 4:00 PM Eastern.
- Suggested Future Board meetings for 2020 are shown below. If a sufficient number of Board members express conflict with a specific date, the meeting may be rescheduled or cancelled.*

June 11 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
July 09 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
August 13 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
September 10 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
October 08 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
November 12 @ 4:00 PM Eastern
December 10 @ 4:00 PM Eastern

10. Upon invitation, Secretary Dan Roman read: *"For the Good of the Order, the AAGS Board gives the President and Treasurer the authority to carry out the day to day activities of the AAGS until the next Board Meeting."*
11. AAGS President Gillins adjourned the meeting at 16:56 Eastern.
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Respectfully submitted,

Elisabeth Rollins

Acting Recorder

File: Documents\AAGS\AAGS Board Minutes April 09, 2020 final.docx

Date: April 21, 2020

Corrected: May 14, 2020 – removed faulty NSPS spring meeting detail

Compiler: Elisabeth Rollins